

Town of Newfields Conservation Commission
Public Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 17, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

Commission members present were: David Mason, Alison Watts, Lauren Hill, Lindsay Carroll, Bobbie Byrne, Carolyn Scanlon and Selectmen's Representative- James McIlroy. Guests: Mary August, Selectman David Dwyer, Selectman Betsy Coes, Brian Hart from RCT, Mike Sununu, Carol Hall from Trust for Public Land, Concord.

Treasurer's Report was submitted by David Mason. David Mason motioned to accept Treasurer's report as given, seconded by Alison Watts, all in favor YES. See attached.

Minutes of the 12/30/04 meeting were read and David Mason motioned to accept minutes with changes made, seconded by Lindsay Carroll all in favor Yes.

Old Business:

David Mason stated that Tracy Degnan has received the letter from the NCC for \$300.00 in support towards conservation trails in Newfields.

David Mason sent the bill for 2005 to NHACC with an update of NCC member's names and addresses.

David Mason will submit to the Town of Newfields the NCC annual report for the Town Report.

New Business:

Carolyn Scanlon and Lindsay Carroll membership terms are up this year, and they need to submit a letter by March of 2005 to the Selectmen for re-appointment if they wish to continue.

Mill Woods/Falzone Subdivision: Guests: Brian Hart, (Piscassic Greenway), gave an overview. The proposed 340 acre site is off Halls Mill Rd. The cost is \$7.55 Million. Funding is proposed through a partnership of Federal, State and private organizations. For this to occur the Town of Newfields will need to bond \$1.5 million. This will be voted on as a warrant article.

There will be a public hearing on this property on 1/19/05 at the Town Hall, 7:00pm.
The town deliberative session is on 2/9/05 at 7:00 pm, at the Town Hall.
There will be a Ballot vote on Tuesday March 8, 2005 from 10:00am. till, 7:00pm at the Town Hall. The bond vote NEEDS TO PASS BY 60% of votes cast.

Carol Hall, TPL, spoke in favor of the bond. TPL is working in partnership with Rockingham Land Trust. Town vote will need to pass for the partnership to go forward.

Mike Sununu spoke on the costs of the bond to taxpayers over the next 20 years. He presented graphs that showed how taxes could be impacted with and without the bond.

Selectman David Dwyer supported Mike Sununu's data.

David Mason discussed asking Lane Law Office, P.A. to submit separate bills for Open Space, as had been done in the past. Recent Open Space bills have been mixed with regular town business.

A proposal was presented to the commission by the town as follows: The NCC recommends to the Board of Selectmen the expenditures of \$500,000 from 2002 open space bond to help permanently protect up to 340 acres of land known as the Mill Woods subdivision in Newfields and Newmarket, through the acquisition of land, conservation easements or other real estates, if and only if the proposed \$1.5 million bond is passed, on March 8, 2005.

Lindsay Carroll made a motion to accept the recommendation as written and vote yes. The motion was seconded by Lauren Hill and all were in favor- YES.

Old Business:

Falzone's DES/LRMP application letter submitted and read by NCC members. Alison Watts will call the Department of Environmental Services, NHDES and contact Amy C Clark about any need for NCC respond to the letter.

Next NCC Meeting will be on 2/21/05, 7:00 pm, at the Town Hall Newfields.

David Mason motioned to adjourn at 8:55pm. Seconded by Alison Watts, all in favor YES.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Scanlon- Secretary